

Message Text

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15
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 /062 W
----- 076787

R 050010Z AUG 75
FM AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 740
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, PP
SUBJ: BOUGAINVILLE PROVINCIAL GOVT SETS BREAKAWAY DATE

REF: PORT MORESBY 747

1. ACCORDING AUGUST 4 LOCAL PRESS BPG ANNOUNCED THAT BOUGAINVILLE WILL ATTEMPT TO BECOME AN INDEPENDENT STATE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1975. ANNOUNCEMENT CAME AS JOINT STATEMENT FROM BPG SPOKESMAN LEO HANNETT, FATHER JOHN MOMIS (MHA BOUGAINVILLE REGIONAL) AND ALOISIUS NOGA (INTERIM CHAIRMAN OF BPG). STATEMENT RESULTED FROM BPG ASSEMBLY MEETING ON AUGUST 2 WHICH PLEDGED TO SEARCH FOR BOUGAINVILLE IDENTITY.

2. HANNETT ALSO RELEASED BPG COUNTER PROPOSALS TO MEET CENTRAL GOVT DEADLINE SET FOR AUGUST 4, WHICH INCLUDE:

(A) REQUEST FOR A\$50 MILLION FROM GPNG TO ESTABLISH INDEPENDENT BPG;

(B) PROVISION ECONOMIC FORMULA WHEREBY PNG GOVT WOULD
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BE ALLOWED TIME TO PAY BACK OVERSEAS LOANS CONTRACTED

ON ASSUMPTION CONTINUING RECEIPTS FROM BOUGAINVILLE
COPPER.

(C) CONSIDERATION POSSIBILITY OF GPNG RETAINING ITS
20 PERCENT OF BOUGAINVILLE COPPER MINE.

3. BPG STATED HOPES OF BEING ACCOMMODATED WITHIN PNG
HAD BEEN SHATTERED BY SOMARE GOVT'S ABOLITION PROVINCIAL
GOVT CHAPTER FROM CONSTITUTION, AND CENTRALISTIC APPROACH
TO DEVELOPMENT AND NATION BUILDING.

4. PRESS ALSO CARRIES LONG LETTER AUTHORED BY FR. JOHN
MOMIS STATING CALL FOR SECESSION IS RIGHT OF SELF-
DETERMINATION, THAT BOUGAINVILLE HAS NEVER SURRENDERED
ITS SOVEREIGNTY TO A FOREIGN POWER, THAT A GRANT OF
AUTONOMY IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE SOMARE GOVT., AND NOW
IS TIME FOR BOUGAINVILLE TO WITHDRAW BEFORE PNG BECOMES
INDEPENDENT NATION. CONCLUDES WITH APPEAL TO PNG TO
THINK NOT OF COPPER PROFITS BUT OF FUTURE GOOD OF PEOPLE.

COMMENT:

GPNG HAS MADE NO COMMENT AS YET EXCEPT THAT MATTER TO BE
DISCUSSED BY MINISTER JUSTICE AND CHIEF MINISTER AT
WEWAK TODAY.

RHETORIC OF BPG SPOKESMEN BECOMING PROGRESSIVELY DETACHED
FROM REALITY THEREBY MAKING ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE MEANINGFUL
ASSESSMENT THESE DEVELOPMENTS.
EASTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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